

Cowboys prick the conscience

THE brutal and often depressing world of drugs is the subject of *Drugstore Cowboy* (Virgin).

Set in middle America in the 1970s, the story follows four young addicts whose day-to-day survival revolves around raids on drug stores.

Only this time, the violence is not with guns but needles, as they lurch from one "high" to the next while escaping the police.

The group's father figure is Bob, played by Matt Dillon. Surrounded by his "friends" he revels in the role, and they all look to him for advice.

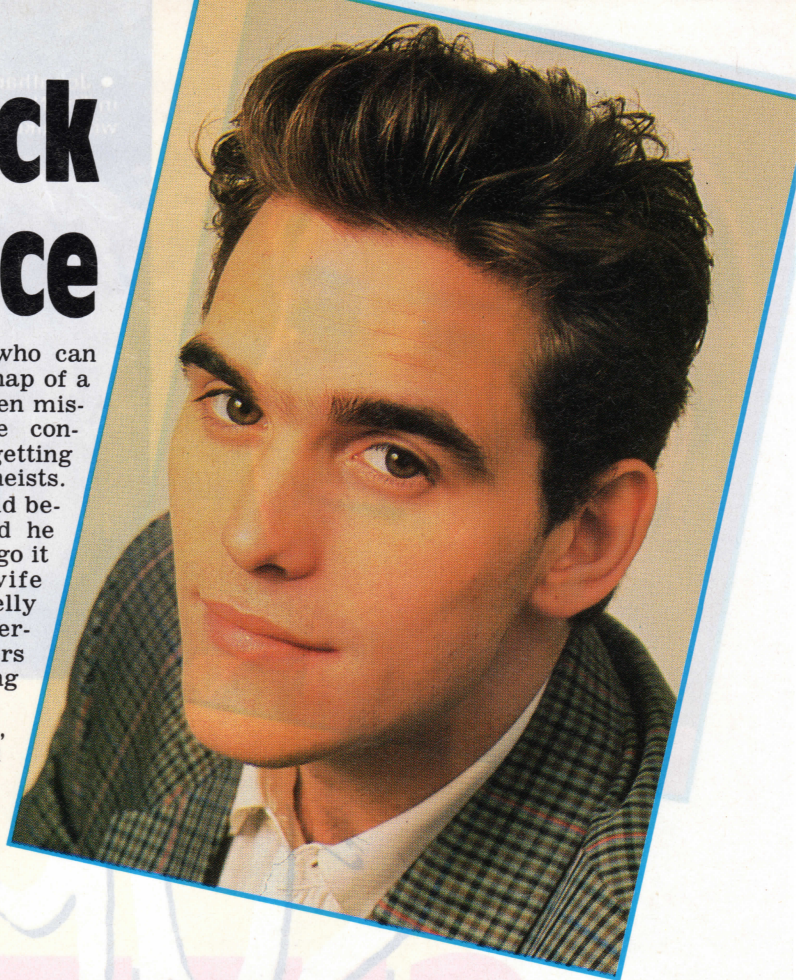
Dillon has come face to face with the contradic-

tions of a character who can both laugh at the mishap of a policeman who has been mistakenly shot, and be concerned about people getting hurt during one of his heists.

But when Bob's world begins to fall apart and he calls it quits, he must go it alone. Even his wife Dianne (willowy Kelly Lynch giving a fine performance here) prefers to continue to drift along in the drug world.

Carefully handled, this provocative and extremely topical work makes quite an impact.

● Matt Dillon as Bob in *Drugstore Cowboy*... breaks his drug habit and loses friends.



JEREMY VINCENT

● Robbie Coltrane and Eric Idle in *Nuns On The Run*... a load of nun-sense which tends to rely on smut for humor.

Strange habits on show

WHEN a pair of hard-luck criminals, Brian and Charlie, get caught with a suitcase of money their only option is to become Nuns On The Run (First Release).

Brian (Monty Python veteran Eric Idle) and Charlie (Robbie Coltrane) call themselves "entrepreneurs", but they are soon on the run from a group of revenge-hungry

rivals and seek shelter inside a nearby convent.

Masquerading as Sister Euphemia of the Five Wounds and Sister Inviolata of the Immaculate Conception, the pair come up against the mother superior and her offshoots.

This kooky comedy has its moments, and in the tradition of British humor often falls back on smut for laughs.

Idle and Coltrane's antics inside the walls of the order make for non-offensive fun.

Freeze FRAMES

THAT well-documented American family the Kennedys are back in *The Kennedys of Massachusetts* (Roadshow). Concentrating on the days before JFK went to the White House,

the four-hour package promises to expose the truth about Rose and Joe Kennedy.

Mel Gibson and Robert Downey jr are flying drug dealers in Vietnam in *Air America* (Roadshow). Well-shot aerials make up for a thin plot involving a visiting senator investigating the illegal activities. Mel can do better than this.

